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Axminster Rural
Honiton Borough
Honiton Rural
Ottery St. Mary Urban
Seaton Urban

Annual Report

R.H.
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of the

Medical Officer of Health for 1964

No. 2 Area Devon

Medical Officer of Health — Dr. R. C. MacLeod

Public Health Inspectors		Surveyors
Axminster Rural	L. H. White	F. J. Smith
Honiton Borough	A. J. C. Nex	A. J. C. Nex
Honiton Rural	J. D. Hopgood	J. D. Hopgood
Ottery St. Mary Urban	C. W. Glover	C. W. Glover
Seaton Urban	P. R. Bradley	P. R. Bradley

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICERS

for

NO. 2 AREA — EAST DEVON

HONITON BOROUGH Dr. W. H. McBay, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.O.bst., R.C.O.G., D.C.H.

AXMINSTER RURAL Dr. B. L. Finzel, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

SIDMOUTH URBAN Dr. R. G. Michelmore, M.D., M.B., B.S.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

HONITON RURAL ... Dr. A. T. H. Glanvill, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., C.P.H.

OTTERY ST. MARY URBAN ... Dr. J. F. N. Sidebotham, M.B., B. Chir.

SEATON URBAN Dr. A. M. W. Coburn, M.B., Ch.B.

These doctors receive a small retainer and a sessional fee if called upon to deputise for or assist the Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report

for No. 2 Area for 1964

comprising :—

AXMINSTER RURAL, HONITON BOROUGH,
HONITON RURAL, OTTERY ST. MARY URBAN,
AND SEATON URBAN.

DR. R. C. MacLEOD — *Medical Officer of Health.*

This is the 8th Annual Report I have presented. I shall, as in previous years, comment on services provided in the area by the County Council as well as on those provided by the District Councils.

Infectious Disease.

1964

	Axminster Rural	Honiton Borough	Honiton Rural	Ottery St. Mary Urban	Seaton Urban	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	1	0	1	0	0	2
Whooping Cough ...	28	2	7	0	0	37
Measles ...	38	27	36	1	2	104
Poliomyelitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ...	2	0	0	1	0	3
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory) ...	1	0	0	0	1	2
Diphtheria ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal infection ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis ...	0	0	0	1	0	1
Dysentery ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal pyrexia ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia ...	3	3	0	0	0	6
Food poisoning ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
	73	32	44	3	3	155

Diphtheria.

Once again no cases have been reported during the year. It is essential, however, that immunisation against this disease should continue, and all parents should ensure that their children are immunised.

Food Poisoning.

No cases were notified during the year. The piecemeal arrival of information on corned beef during the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak necessitated three separate visits to each and every establishment in the area selling it.

Food Hygiene.

Many visits to food handling premises were made during the year. There is no doubt that the public is becoming more conscious of the necessity for food hygiene and this aids us very much in our task. The standard continues to rise, but vigilance is required at all times.

Immunisation.

The system whereby with the co-operation of the County Medical Department, immunisation figures for the five districts covered by this report can be compiled separately from those of the County as a whole, has been continued. The numbers inoculated are shown below :—

	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Booster</i>	<i>Total</i>
Smallpox	324	84	408
Triple*	601 (24 incomplete)†	221	822
Diphtheria/Tetanus ...	17 (1 incomplete)†	63	80
Diphtheria	1	—	1
Tetanus	63 (19 incomplete)†	51	114
	<hr/> 1,006	<hr/> 419	<hr/> 1,425

*Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Tetanus vaccines. †Most of those incomplete will be completed in 1965.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year.

Tuberculosis.

Five cases were notified. As I stated previously small numbers of cases must be expected to occur over the next few years. Final elimination of the disease may present special problems.

At present all children in Primary Schools are Heaf tested (a simple skin test) to see whether they have been exposed to the infection. Those who are shown to have been so exposed are X-rayed together with their families as a precautionary measure.

It should be remembered that all middle-aged and older persons in this country have been exposed to this infection at one time or another, and all but a few overcome it without developing the disease. The discovery of children with a positive skin test may, however, lead us to undetected cases.

Children in Senior Schools, including private schools, are also Heaf tested, and if negative, are offered B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis. This vaccination is carried out by me throughout the six districts of my area.

Brucellosis.

Since the eradication of tuberculosis in dairy herds, brucellosis, while not nearly so widespread or so dangerous an infection has become the major illness likely to be contracted through drinking raw milk. While pasteurisation renders milk safe, many people, particularly in rural areas have not got a readily available supply of pasteurised milk or prefer to drink raw milk. In addition, one-third of all human cases is directly infected from the cow, and there is considerable economic loss to farmers from the infection. The right and proper course is for an eradication scheme to be instituted with slaughter of infected animals and compensation to farmers. It is most unjust that under the present system dairy farmers selling raw milk should be penalised by action which the Medical Officer of Health is forced to take when neighbouring farmers with infection in their herds, but whose milk goes for pasteurisation, need not take any action and thus maintain infection in the area.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' own report on brucellosis the number of infected cows in the country is about 66,000, and the major losses associated are 11,000 calves, 3½ million gallons of milk, the cost of vaccination with strain 19, and the losses consequent upon 6,000 retained placentas!

Anthrax.

*Under the provision of the Diseases of Animals Act — 1950 —
Anthrax Order 1938.*

Seven cases of anthrax were notified. Where the disease occurred in bovines the farmers were visited, and advice on prevention of human infection given. No human cases occurred.

International Certificates of Vaccination.

When completed by the medical practitioners these certificates must be authenticated by the local Medical Officer of Health.

Number authenticated during the year shown below :—

Month	Smallpox	T.A.B.	Cholera	Total
January	24	2	6	32
February	35	1	1	37
March	21	—	—	21
April	25	2	8	35
May	23	8	15	46
June	32	8	8	48
July	30	2	11	43
August	25	1	7	33
September	19	—	6	25
October	25	—	6	31
November	36	3	11	50
December	18	3	15	36
TOTAL —	313	30	94	437

Cancer.

The number of deaths from cancer of the lungs and bronchus was 11, 9 less than last year. The total number of cancer deaths has risen by 10. There were 13 deaths where cancer was a factor, though not the main cause of death.

Lungs & Bronchus.								All Types including Lungs & Bronchus.							
1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964		1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	
Axminster Rural — Population 14,930															
9	8	6	4	9	13	7		36	32	36	41	44	42	26	
Honiton Borough — Population 4,210															
2	2	0	2	1	1	1		11	12	8	8	5	11	15	
Honiton Rural — Population 7,120															
1	1	3	2	3	0	2		17	17	14	16	16	10	23	
Ottery St. Mary Urban — Population 4,460															
2	2	1	1	1	3	1		16	12	12	10	14	12	15	
Seaton Urban — Population 3,600															
1	2	2	3	4	3	0		7	16	9	14	16	10	16	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
15	15	12	12	18	20	11		87	89	79	89	95	85	95	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

No action was required under this section.

Welfare of Old People.

The Meals on Wheels Service in Seaton, Honiton, Axminster, and Ottery St. Mary continues to be much needed and much appreciated. 1,612 meals were served in the Honiton area, 1,434 in the Seaton area, 1,023 in the Axminster area, and 1,811 in the Ottery St. Mary area.

During the year the full-time Chiropodist held clinics at Honiton, Seaton, Ottery St. Mary, Beer, Branscombe, Colyton, and Axminster.

HOSPITALS.

There are three hospitals in the area :—

- (1) **Axminster.** Accommodation is as follows : 30 beds for general medical and minor surgical cases including one private and one amenity bed.
- (2) **Honiton.** Accommodation is as follows : 153 beds in all. 104 chronic sick, 26 welfare, 7 maternity, and 16 acute medical and minor surgical.
- (3) **Ottery St. Mary.** Accommodation is as follows : 23 beds in all. 19 general medical and minor surgical, and 4 chronic sick.

Cases of infectious disease from the area go to Whipton Isolation Hospital, the Resident Physician and his staff have been most helpful at all times.

Laboratory Facilities.

Co-operation between the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter and the Public Health Department has been close.

Child Welfare Clinics.

Child welfare clinics are held at Axminster, Millwey Rise, Colyton, Honiton, Seaton, and Ottery St. Mary. The number of sessions held and the attendances were as follows :—

Axminster.

Number of sessions held — 29.

Total number of attendances (babies) — 288.

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 230.

Millwey Rise.

Number of sessions held — 8.

Total number of attendances (babies) — 14.

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 49.

Colyton.

Number of sessions held — 24.

Total number of attendances (babies) — 191.

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 191.

Honiton.

Number of sessions held — 41.

Total number of attendances (babies) — 473.

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 275.

Seaton.

Number of sessions held — 23.

Total number of attendances (babies) — 206.

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 128.

Ottery St. Mary.

Number of sessions held — 24.

Total number of attendances (babies) — 445.

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 224.

Water Supplies.

East Devon Water Board.

I am indebted to the Chief Engineer of the East Devon Water Board for the following report.

“Further work on the Wilmington Rural Development Scheme has been continued in the past year, completing the remaining mainlaying links and extensions. The length between Monkton and Rawridge has been completed, thus allowing the reduction to standby of the small local source at Upottery Village.

The source at Yarcombe has also been abandoned with the completion of the 4in. dia. main between Chaffhay and Yarcombe, and mains extensions in Yarcombe itself.

During the year sheet piling has been installed around the springs at Wilmington to afford a greater degree of protection from pollution and surface water to this source. Work is still in progress on this scheme, and some concrete work in covering over the area behind the piles has yet to be carried out.

A connection has been made at Colyford to enable Wilmington water to be fed into the Seaton distribution system to supplement the supply from Holyford.

Improvements have been effected by contract and direct labour to the Intake at Holyford. Sheet steel piling has been driven along the line of the embankment of the Lower Intake thus sealing off the leakage which was taking place, and at the same time the height of the embankment has been raised. The by-wash channel alongside the Intake has been improved and proper overflow arrangements incorporated in the scheme.

A link has been completed extending from the Wilmington Scheme to connect to the Ridgeway source which was originally operated by the Colyton Feoffees. This takes Wilmington water to Colyton.

During the year, in the programme of borehole development to find new sources of supply, further drillings have been carried out in the Otter Valley near Tipton St. John.

Peak consumption conditions were reached in July when the output from all sources of the Board, as it was then constituted, exceeded 2 million g.p.d."

In addition to these improvements in supply the surveillance of Water Board personnel has continued. During the year 61 specimens of blood from employees were examined for evidence of enteric infection, and medical certificates covering all absences from work of personnel were scanned. Further enquiries were made in several cases, but in only one case was an employee found to be suffering from an infection which could be water borne. This man was not allowed to return to work until three negative specimens had been obtained.

A medical examination for superannuation purposes is obligatory for East Devon Water Board employees, and this in those employees who may be in contact with water supplies includes a Widal test.

Outworkers.

Under the provisions relating to the Outworkers in the Factories Act, 1937, it is necessary for Councils in whose areas there are factories or other establishments employing outworkers to inform the Medical Officer of Health of the district where the outworkers live of the fact of their employment.

The number of Outworkers seems to be declining. No problem has arisen in connection with such employment during the year.

Mass Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Service examined 3,274 people throughout the year, and a list of the conditions discovered is given below :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Newly-discovered significant cases	...	...	...	...	—
(a) Requiring treatment	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Requiring further observation	...	...	...	...	2
Healed cases. No further action	...	...	...	...	8
Pneumonitis	...	...	...	...	7
Diaphragmatic abnormality	...	...	...	...	4
Bony abnormality of clinical significance	...	...	...	...	1
Bony abnormality, not clinically significant	...	...	...	...	14
Congenital cardiovascular disease	...	...	...	...	2
Acquired cardiovascular disease	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis & Emphysema	...	...	...	...	5
Carcinoma of bronchus	...	...	...	...	2
Non-malignant tumour	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchiectasis	...	...	...	...	1

Camping and Caravanning.

Our licensed sites have given little trouble, but the District Councils cannot be happy about some of the sites occupied by exempted organisations. Once again I must stress the need for transit sites on the roads entering Devon from the east. I can see little point in enacting legislation to prevent roadside camping until adequate, easily accessible, and attractive sites are provided.

Staff.

The staff position has much improved, and consequently a more adequate coverage of public health work, old and new, is now possible. Seven years ago for the five districts covered by this report there were precisely one whole-time and six part-time inspectors! We now have the reasonable figure of six whole-time and four part-time inspectors, though one of the former is employed almost whole-time on meat inspection.

R. C. MacLEOD,
Medical Officer of Health.

AXMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT

Area	...	...	...	...	...	52,135	acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	14,930	
Number of Parishes	...	...	...	...	...	14	
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£504,501	
Penny Rate produces	...	...	...	...	...	£2,042	
General Rate levied	...	...	...	...	...	9/1d.	

Deaths

1963	99 males, 109 females	...	...	...	...	208
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	14.2
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	0.8
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	10.8
1964	101 males, 78 females	...	...	...	...	179
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	12
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	.76
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	9.1

Live Births

1963	95 males, 80 females	...	...	...	...	175
	11 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	175
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	11.9
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	1.3
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	15.5
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	6.3
1964	86 males, 96 females	...	...	...	...	182
	9 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	182
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	12.2
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	1.3
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	15.8
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	4.9

Still Births

1963	1 still birth was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	1
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	176
	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	5.7
1964	1 still birth was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	1
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	183
	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	5.5

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1963	3 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	17.1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	18.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	Nil
1964	3 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	16.5
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	17.3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1963	3 deaths were registered	...	...	...	3
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	17.1
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	Nil
1964	3 deaths were registered	...	...	...	3
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	16.5
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1963	2 deaths were registered	...	...	...	2
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	17.1
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	22.7
1954	3 deaths were registered	...	...	...	3
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	16.5
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	21.9

Deaths.

The chief causes of death were :

	1963	1964
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	4	1
Other infective and parasitic disease	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast	4	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	9
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	50	42
Coronary disease, angina	26	37
Hypertension with heart disease	9	2
Other heart disease	19	18
Other circulatory disease	10	7
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	4	6
Bronchitis	6	11
Other disease of respiratory system	4	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0
Other defined and ill-defined disease	20	11
Motor accidents	0	5
All other accidents	7	1
Suicide	2	2
	<hr/> 208	<hr/> 179

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Water Supplies.

East Devon Water Board. The following areas : Chardstock, Yawl, Uplyme, Rousdon, Kilminster, Beer, Raymond's Hill, Colyford, Colyton, and Dalwood have been regularly sampled and examination has shown that in all cases the supplies were most satisfactory.

Private Water Undertakings. The following were also regularly examined. These sources are not subject to treatment or chlorination.

Axmouth (Stedcombe Estate) Supply. — Class 1.

Combpyne Supply. Again this supply has been maintained at a reasonable standard, but occasionally it has deteriorated to Class 4 of the Ministry of Health's classification for non-chlorinated piped supplies.

It should be noted that the old Colyton Feoffees Supply, which had a chlorinating plant installed last year, has now been taken over by the East Devon Water Board.

Private and Farm Water Supplies. Sampling has been carried out where necessary, and particularly for health reasons. Also new supplies have been sampled where required for domestic use. It is noted that once a new supply has been developed that little care is taken afterwards to fence and protect a sufficient area of ground to enable the source to maintain its bacteriological purity. Many people thoughtlessly pollute their sources of supply by various means.

Sewerage.

Work is still in progress at the new Axminster site, and it is hoped that the installation will be completed during the next year. These works should meet the sewerage needs of Axminster and Kilminster, and then open up a further development by taking in the Millwey Rise and Chard Road areas. It is hoped that at this point serious consideration may be given to the outstanding drainage problems in the Raymond's Hill and Smallridge areas. The schemes for Dalwood and Membury have now progressed to a point where tenders may soon be invited, and it would be pleasing to see these started in the new year.

Public Conveniences.

During the year extensive improvement was carried out to the lavatories at Beer, and now during the summer season facilities have been provided so that there is an attendant available. It is proposed next year that the lavatories at Axminster, Beer, and Colyton shall be administered by the Rural Council and also that extra provision for another public convenience may be made at the new car park at Axminster.

General Inspections and Visits.

General Sanitation.

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	160
Stables, Piggeries and Cow Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	8
Caravans, Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	104
Litter	...	...	...	...	...	13
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	39
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	1
Animal Boarding Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	4
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	23
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	225
Rats and Mice (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act)	...	...	...	...	...	70
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shops and Offices Act—Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	44
Shops and Offices Act—Visits	...	...	...	...	...	79
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	12
Petroleum—Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	...	...	23
Explosives—Visits	...	...	...	...	...	1

Housing

Under Public Health Acts						
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	4
Under Housing Acts						
No. of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	31
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	295
Filthy or Verminous Premises						
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	...	1

Meat and Food Inspections.

Inspection of meat						
Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	4
Visits to Shops and Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	59
Visits to Other Premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total Meat Inspection Visits	...	...	...	...	...	189
Knackers yard	...	...	...	...	...	8
Visits in connection with:						
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	71
Condemnation of Food	...	...	...	...	...	27
Miscellaneous food visits	...	...	...	...	...	1

Food and Drugs Act — 1955.

1. Number of Food Premises.

Type	Number in Area	Number of Inspections
(a) Bakeries	9	2
(b) Beach Stalls	4	—
(c) Butchers	11	9
(d) Canteens (works and school) ...	22	3
(e) Clubs, licensed premises, hotels ...	45	3
(f) Confectioners	10	—
(g) Dairies and Milk Distributors ...	5	—
(h) Fishmongers and Poulterers ...	5	7
(i) Food preparing premises ...	...	1
(j) Greengrocers and Fruiterers ...	11	4
(k) Grocers	52	28
(l) Market Stalls	4	7
(m) Pannier Market	1	—
(n) Restaurants and Cafes	18	6
(o) Street Traders	3	—

2. Number of premises registered under Section 16.

(a) Manufacture of Sausages ...	10	—
(b) Sale of Ice Cream only (pre-packed)	73	1
(c) Fish frying	3	—

3. It has not been possible to form any food guild within the area.

4. Disposal of condemned foods:

- (a) Tinned Food—by incineration.
- (b) Meat —by incineration.

During the year the following was condemned:

Tinned Meat, 228lb. 6½oz.; Tinned Vegetables, 20lb. 3oz.; Chilled Meat, 10lb. 8oz.; Fresh Meat, 7lb.; Dried Fruit, 30lb.; Other Foods, 45lb. 10½oz.; Tinned Fruit, 30lb. 15½oz.; Dairy produce 30lb. 6½pt.

5. No action has been necessary with regard to the Ice-Cream (Heat treatment) Regulations, as no Ice-cream is manufactured in this district.

Food Poisoning.

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year.

Meat Inspection Regulations — 1963.

Slaughtering continues at Axminster. The new Meat Inspection Regulations have been fully implemented. 100% inspection is carried out and all meat stamped as laid down in the Act.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part :

	Cattle	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	211	991	2
<i>All Disease except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.</i>			
Whole carcases condemned	—	5	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	3	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis ... ..	.37%	.8%	—

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>	—	—	—

Knackers Yard.

Continued inspection has been made at the premises at Hook, Chardstock. There has been a change of ownership, and the new owner is making extensive improvements including the provision of a Danish Pressure Melter.

Poultry Dressing and Packing Station at Chardstock.

These premises deal with an average of three and a half thousand birds a day, and during the year a re-organisation has been made to part of the layout of the premises.

It is observed that standards of hygiene are continually improving and the premises are visited by other groups of Public Health Inspectors who wish to observe the processing and packing of the birds.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

There has been a need to reconsider both collection and disposal with an eye to its future development, and a new collecting vehicle was obtained in order to bring the vehicles up-to-date. Furthermore it has been agreed to obtain a Bulldozer in order that the condition of the dump may be further improved by continual and daily consolidation and cover with soil. The cost of daily control by contract would become exorbitant.

Dumping at Bcer was terminated on March 31, and the new dump at Kilmington was opened up, but this will only provide for a short breathing space of three years and it will be necessary in the meantime to find a site that will provide long-term disposal. It is hoped that once this re-organisation has taken place plans will be formed for a twice-yearly collection of large items of household refuse, probably in the early Spring and Autumn of each year.

Litter Act — 1958.

Over 200 litter receptacles spread throughout the district have been regularly emptied in the course of carrying out refuse collection within those areas, and during the summer months extra collections were carried out either on Saturday mornings, Monday or Friday evenings, in order to prepare for the week-end visitors to the district. Abuse of the lay-bys and of the receptacles themselves still continues, and this is mainly due to day-trippers and those people who "pig-it" overnight on the roadside verges. In the winter months the litter receptacles are often mis-used by people depositing household refuse in them.

Revenue should be provided to help Local Authorities to pay for these litter collections, and it would seem reasonable, because the litter comes mainly from the occupants of motor vehicles, that an increase in the fee for a driving licence should be considered.

Sanitation of Lay-Bys.

Lay-bys continue to be fouled and to attract birds and rodents. The provision of local authority-controlled sanitation at lay-bys will be costly. It might be considered that on most roads there is already plenty of sanitary accommodation at Public Houses, Transport Cafes, and Garages which could help in some way to provide an overall pattern of sanitation. I would have thought that it would also have been much better to develop sanitary conveniences along main roads (if they have to be done by the local authority) at villages en route and so help to provide an added facility in those villages. An overall policy on a countrywide basis is necessary.

Rodent Control.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act — 1949

The part-time Rodent Operator has continued to survey the whole of the district. During the year the following premises were inspected under the above Act.

Local Authority	... ..	24
Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	... ..	959
All other (including business premises)	... ..	259
Agricultural	... ..	162

Test baiting and half-yearly maintenance treatments were carried out to the Council's sewerage system at Axminster, Axmouth, Beer, Colyton, Colyford, and Stockland, and services were also carried out to the Council's sewage treatment plants.

The Council's refuse dumps were systematically treated.

Petroleum.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts 1928 and 1936.

The inspections and annual licensing of all installations covering 65 storage sites for petrol and 3 for petroleum mixtures was dealt with. During the year one new site was developed, and storage increased at four sites.

Explosives.

During the year the administrative work in connection with the Explosives Act 1875 and 1923 was carried out.

The number licensed was:

(a) for the keeping of Mixed Explosives	...	...	18
(b) for the keeping of Cartridges	...	...	3
(c) for the keeping of Gunpowder	...	...	3

Animal Boarding Establishments Act — 1963.

This Act came into force on the 1st of January, 1964 and four establishments have been licensed, providing adequate and satisfactory accommodation for the boarding of 25 dogs and 7 cats. Re-visits have shown that they have been maintained and well run.

Offices, Shops, and Railway Premises Act — 1963.

Table A. Registration and General Inspections.

TOTALS			
Offices	...	25	5
Retail Shops	...	73	37
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	...	2	—
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	...	27	2
Fuel Storage Depot	...	1	—
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Class of Premises	Number of Registered Premises during the year.	Total no. of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.

Table B. Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises.

1 2 3

Table C. Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises or Workplace.

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed					
Offices	145
Retail Shops	263
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	19
Catering establishments open to the public	125
Canteens	—
Fuel Storage Depots	13
Total ...						565
Total Males ...						238
Total Females ...						327

No applications of Exemption from certain provisions of the Act were received and no prosecutions were instituted since the Act came into force.

The inspections carried out to the end of the year have been mainly confined to shops, which comprise the majority of premises registered outside of Axminster. Those shop premises which are food premises have also been inspected under the Food Hygiene Regulations and inspection records brought up to date.

The majority of premises so far inspected only contravene the Act on minor items. Some lack a thermometer on each floor, others a first aid box with minimum contents as laid down in the Regulations. Cleanliness, the number of persons employed per workroom and the Heating and Ventilation of premises in the main comply satisfactorily with the Act. Lighting varies considerably from very poor to excellent. A small number of floors need attention and apart from a few handrails required, staircases are good and openings well fenced. Most of the premises inspected comply with the Sanitary Conveniences Regulations 1964 and Washing Facilities Regulations 1964, and the owners of those that contravene these Regulations have intimated that their premises will comply before 1st January, 1966.

Since the Act came into force no accidents have been reported, but during inspection occupiers of premises have been warned of the hazards not only from dangerous machinery, most of which appear to be guarded or fenced satisfactorily, but also from other things which can cause accidents.

Factories Act — 1961.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	8	4	—
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	30	1
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	6	5	—
	—	—	—
Total ...	79	39	1
	—	—	—

Number of cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating eto Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	1	—

Section 133 and 134 — Outworkers

Nature of work.	Section 133 No. of out workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists.	Section 134 No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises.	Notices served.	Prosecu- tions.
Wearing apparel	8	—	—	—	—	—
Nets other than wire nets	3	—	—	—	—	—

Camping and Caravanning.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act — 1960.

In 1964 there were, at peak of season, in use :

- 18 Residential Caravans
- 361 Static Holiday Caravans
- 32 Mobile Caravans
- 84 Organised Tents
- 245 Casual Tents
- 20 Motorised — e.g., Dormobile
- Holiday Chalets.

Routine inspection during the season was carried out at the five main licensed sites, besides the twelve individual sites also licensed.

There were seven sites issued with exemption certificates under the above Act. Those sites were not extensively used, and they accommodated about twenty caravans for short intervals only throughout the season.

Housing.

Council.

During the year a further 57 Council dwellings were completed. This brings the total number of properties on all estates to 1,107.

Permanent Pre-war Dwellings	...	...	...	...	352
Permanent Post-war Dwellings	...	...	...	...	737
Prefabricated Bungalows	...	...	...	...	11
Conversions	...	...	...	...	7

Currently 59 dwellings are in the course of construction, and there is an agreed programme for another 36.

A feature of the housing schemes in recent years has been the erection of grouped dwellings for aged persons. At Millwey Rise 30 bungalows are occupied and a Resident Warden is in attendance. The sites at Beer and Colyton are practically completed, and Wardens have been appointed to commence duties early in 1965.

In addition the Housing Department carried out valuations in respect of 26 properties for which an application for housing advances was made.

Housing Act — 1957.

Total number of dwelling houses demolished	1
Total number of dwelling houses closed	7
Total number of dwelling houses informally closed	3
Total number of dwelling houses rendered fit by formal notice	4

Arising from 399 Official Searches no less than 41 properties were revealed in the lower categories. Owners availed themselves of the information regarding the defects and were encouraged, sometimes by Improvement Grant, to raise the condition of the property to a higher category.

Improvement Grants.

During the year, 18 Discretionary Grants were approved, involving grants amounting to £4,790. 14 Standard Grants were also approved involving maximum grant value of £2,015.

The total number of grant applications dealt with up to December 31st, 1964, by the Surveyor's Department, now total 427 involving a total amount of work of £82,917.

Rent Act — 1957.

No applications have been received during the year.

L. H. WHITE, M.R.S.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

HONITON BOROUGH

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,125 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,210
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£175,780
Penny Rate produces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£711
General Rate levied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10/2d.

Deaths

1963	37 males, 35 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.5
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.6
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.3
1964	34 males, 38 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.1
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	.67
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.5

Live Births

1963	43 males, 35 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
	2 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.8
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.24
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.8
	Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.6
1964	39 males, 37 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
	1 illegitimate birth was registered and is included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.1
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.24
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.4
	Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.3

Still Births

1963	2 still births were registered	2
	Total live and still births	80
	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births	25
1964	0 still births were registered	0
	Total live and still births	76
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1963	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12.8
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	13.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
1964	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	13.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	13.3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1963	1 death was registered	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12.8
	Maternal deaths	Nil
1964	1 death was registered	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	13.2
	Maternal deaths	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1963	1 death was registered	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12.8
	Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	38.4
1964	0 deaths were registered	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate	Nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	Nil

Deaths.

The chief causes of death were :—

	1963	1964
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	1
Other infective and parasitic disease	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	9
Diabetes	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	20
Coronary disease, angina	16	10
Hypertension with heart disease	0	1
Other heart disease	7	5
Other circulatory disease	2	3
Pneumonia	6	2
Bronchitis	6	2
Other disease of respiratory system	1	0
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	0	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0
Congenital malformations	0	2
Other defined or ill-defined disease	3	3
Motor vehicle accidents	0	2
All other accidents	2	3
Suicide	0	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	72	72

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING.

Council Housing — Slum Clearance.

During the year four Council Houses were completed with a further thirty-one under construction. The preliminary work referred to in last year's report is now bearing fruit, and the programme is gaining momentum. We should find with the programme envisaged at present a number of new houses regularly becoming available to the Housing Committee for letting purposes. Because of the policy of a steady flow of new units of accommodation the department has been able to address itself more earnestly to work both under the Public Health Acts and the Housing Acts. This policy is now beginning to bring results. During the past twelve months we have directed our attention to numerous houses. Forty inspections have been made for the Housing Department in order that that department may properly assess the number of points to which Council House applicants are entitled. We have taken the opportunity during these inspections of building up a picture of the housing conditions in the Borough generally. In twelve cases we have taken formal Housing Act action resulting in six premises being closed, two demolished, three classed as tolerably habitable, and one served with a schedule of repairs. In addition to this formal action a considerable amount of informal action has been taken resulting in numerous houses being provided with facilities and having items of disrepair eliminated.

Council House Survey.

At the request of the Housing Committee a general inspection of Council Houses was conducted. The survey revealed a number of items of disrepair and several cases where action was required by the tenant. With these minor exceptions and one or two cases where unsatisfactory conditions were found conditions of occupation were found to be generally satisfactory and in many instances both internally and externally excellent.

Housing in Multiple Occupation.

Two cases have been taken to Committee this year resulting in one owner providing satisfactory facilities and the other reducing the number of families in the house.

Improvement Grants.

The policy of assisting with house purchase has continued. The table set out hereunder illustrates this.

	No. Applications	No. Approved	No. Refused	Value Approved
Standard Grant ...	1	1	—	£115 0 0
Discretionary Grant	1	—	—	— — —
Loan on Repairs ...	1	—	1	— — —
Mortgages for House Purchase .	7	6	1	£13,050 0 0

Rent Act — 1957.

No applications were received again this year.

Housing Generally.

It is pleasing to be able to record that the present policy of the Council will eliminate the few remaining very bad houses in a short period of time, and that the department is engaged in bringing up to a reasonable standard property capable of repair.

Public Health — General.

It is again pleasing to record that the general public health condition of the Borough is excellent. Constant unobtrusive public health work is carried out ranging from food inspection to sewage disposal. I must record the very good relations which I believe exist between the department and the public generally and to express my thanks to the public for the very excellent co-operation and assistance which they give. There are no premises being used as Common Lodging Houses.

I have avoided tables and numbers of inspections as far as possible as I am of the opinion that they are of little value, and in many instances completely misleading.

Water Supply.

The East Devon Water Board are the statutory undertakers. During the year the quality and quantity of the water has been satisfactory as has the pressure. I have not sampled the mains water as the Board regularly do this and make available to me the results of the samples taken by them.

Bathing Facilities.

I trust that the last summer has passed when the small learner pool will have been in use. The new swimming pool being built by the Trustees with the assistance of the Borough Council is now well in hand and all those engaged in its construction and evolution are hopeful that the new pool will come into operation in early summer, 1965.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The modernisation and enlargement of the existing works is now well advanced and the latest information from the Consulting Engineers is that it is hoped that the works will become fully operative between June and September, 1965. Efforts have been made to produce as good an effluent as possible during the reconstruction work. Trade effluent is discharged from these premises and "directions" have been served in each instance.

Public Conveniences.

The public conveniences have been satisfactorily maintained during the past twelve months. There has been a certain amount of vandalism. The Public Health Committee decided as a trial to provide soap and towels in the Ladies' Conveniences at the Northcote Lane Conveniences. Within a matter of days the containers had been pulled off the walls.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order — 1957.

No licences are in force.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Council continue to dispose of its refuse at the Sidmouth Urban District Council tip of Knapp's Copse.

No salvaging is carried out and trade and domestic refuse is collected at the same time, a charge being made for the collection of trade refuse. The system is working well. Very few (and those only minor) complaints were received during the year.

Factories Act—1961

Premises	No. Registered	No. of Inspections	No. of Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	... 3	3	—
Factories not included in the above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	... 38	22	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	... —	—	—
Total	... 41	25	—

Number of cases where defects were found :

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Over- crowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	2	—	—	—

Section 133 and 134 Outworkers

Nature of work.	Section 133 No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c).	No. of cases of default in send- ing list to the Council.	No. of prose- cutions for fail- ure to supply lists.	Section 134 No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises.	Notices served.	Prosecu- tions
Wearing apparel	1	—	—	—	—	—
Making Nets other than wire	—	—	—	—	—	—

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act—1963

During the period from May to December eighty-five premises were registered of which sixty received a general inspection. This is made up of forty retail shops, seventeen offices, two canteens or catering establishments and one warehouse. In twenty-four instances improvements to secure compliance with the Act have been required. I set out, hereunder, an extract of parts of form O.S.R.

14.

Table A. Registrations and General Inspections.

Totals	...	...	...	...	85	85	60
Offices	...	...	...	...	31	31	17
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	45	45	40
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	..				1	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	...				8	8	2
Fuel storage depots	...	..			—	—	—
(1) Class of premises		(2) No. of premises registered during the year	(3) Total No. of registered premises at end of year	(4) No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year			

Table B. Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises—60.

Table C. Analysis of persons employed in registered premises or workplace.

Class of Workplace							Number of Persons employed
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	164
Wholesale department, warehouses	...						20
Catering establishments, open to the public	...						21
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
							—
					Total	...	357
							—
					Total males	...	173
							—
					Total females	...	184
							—

No applications for exemption were received.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act — 1956.

The number of farms in the Borough remains at 33.

No inspections were carried out during the year as action was concentrated on other work.

Petroleum.

All the establishments previously licensed were re-licensed. No new licences were issued. All the premises continue to comply with the Model Code of Principles of Construction, and numerous site visits were carried out during the course of the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act — 1949.

The Council continue to employ a part-time operator, and during the course of the year he has carried out a survey of many premises in the Borough and in most cases where an infestation has been found, has upon request, cleared the infestation on a rechargeable basis. All Council-owned properties have been regularly inspected, and any infestations found cleared. Once again the annual 10% test bait of sewers revealed a very light infestation. Fewer and fewer complaints of rats and mice were received. This together with the operative's reports and survey indicates that the rodent population is declining.

Camping and Caravanning.

Two sites with site licences continue to exist, one for 58 residential caravans and the other for 30 touring caravans or tents. Both sites are gradually being brought up to a reasonable standard. No nuisances have arisen during the past twelve months due to camping, etc. One other site has been issued with a Certificate under Paragraph 5 of the First Schedule of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

Food and Drugs Act — 1955.

There were no reported cases of food poisoning in the Borough again this year. Frequent visits to all types of food premises are paid at regular intervals and arrangements continue, whereby traders who have food they think is unfit, call in the department. Last year this resulted in a total of 6cwt. of food being voluntarily surrendered. It is pleasing to be able to recall that of the 36 detailed inspections of food premises, made during the year, few contraventions of the Food Hygiene (Regulation) 1960 were found. Informal action secured immediate remedial measures in these few instances. During the height of the summer samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination and in each case the result was satisfactory. Twenty-six premises continue to be registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream, whilst two premises continue to be registered for the manufacture by the cold mix method, and sale of ice-cream and seven premises are registered for the sale of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough.

Meat Inspection.

The department is providing a meat inspection service in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 and the Council have continued to impose a charge for this service equal to the maximum by the Ministry, i.e. 2/6d. for adult bovines, 9d. for pigs and calves, and 6d. for sheep. The following points are of interest :—

- (I) The “kill” figures vary from last year as follows :—

Cattle	... ..	decreased by	551
Calves	... ..	decreased by	138
Sheep and Lambs	... ..	decreased by	1,371
Pigs	... ..	decreased by	1,324
- (II) The number of whole carcasses condemned has decreased for all classes of animals killed.
- (III) The number of parts of carcasses or offal condemned has increased for all classes.
- (IV) The amount of tuberculosis found in cattle, it is pleasant to record, continues to decrease, having dropped from 0.25% to 0.1%. However, in the case of pigs it has risen from 0.8% to 1.0%.
- (V) The percentage amount of Cysticercosis found, remains fairly constant. Last year there were 22 carcasses, this year there were 18.

TABLE OF KILL FIGURES, INSPECTION FIGURES,
AND UNSOUND MEAT.

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep & Lambs</i>
Number killed	2849	128	8884	13593
Number inspected	2849	128	8884	13593
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.				
Whole carcasses condemned	48	5	49	93
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	337	10	449	255
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with a disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis				
	7%	7%	4%	2%

Tuberculosis Only.					
Whole carcasses					
condemned	3	—	1	—	
Carcases of which some					
part or organ					
was condemned ...	3	—	90	—	
Percentage of the					
number inspected					
affected with					
Tuberculosis ... ..	.25%	—	.8%	—	
Cysticercosis (localised)	18	—	—	—	

The following meat and offal was voluntarily surrendered from the two slaughterhouses.

	<i>Meat</i>	<i>Offal</i>
Cattle	21,245lbs	7,601lbs.
Calves	777lbs.	199lbs.
Pigs	6,865lbs.	3,590lbs.
Sheep	3,485lbs.	1,663lbs.

Total Meat : 14 tons 9 cwts.

Total Offal : 5 tons 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.

Conclusion.

The Department is, I trust, giving adequate "Public Health Cover" to most, if not all, aspects of its duties. I would like to record my thanks to Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Napier, and Miss Harvey for their very able assistance during the year.

A. J. C. NEX,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

HONITON RURAL DISTRICT

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61,260 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,120
Number of Parishes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£157,945
Penny Rate produces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£592
General Rate levied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8/3d.

Deaths

1963	37 males, 35 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.6
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.9
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.7
1964	47 males, 35 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.5
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.93
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.7

Live Births

1963	50 males, 57 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
	4 illegitimate births were registered, and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.2
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.2
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.8
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.7
1964	62 males, 55 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
	4 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.4
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.17
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.4

Still Births

1963	1 still birth was registered	1
	Total live and still births	108
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	9.3
1964	3 still births were registered	3
	Total live and still births	120
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	25

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1963	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	18.7
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	19.4
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
1964	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	17.7
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1963	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	9.3
	Maternal deaths	Nil
1964	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.1
	Maternal deaths	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1963	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	9.3
	Peri-natal mortality rate	18.5
1964	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.1
	Peri-natal mortality rate	41.7

Deaths.

The chief causes of death were :—

	1963	1964
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	14
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	3	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	9
Coronary disease, angina	15	18
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1
Other heart disease	8	7
Other circulatory disease	1	1
Pneumonia	5	2
Bronchitis	4	2
Other disease of respiratory system	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0
Congenital malformations	0	2
Other defined and ill-defined disease	6	8
Motor accidents	1	2
All other accidents	1	4
Suicide	0	1
	—	—
	72	82
	—	—

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Water Supplies.

The statutory water undertakers for this area, the East Devon Water Board have continued their policy of reinforcement and expansion of water mains during the year.

The schemes previously reported as planned were carried out, they are Monkton-Rawridge-Upottery 4in., Sidford-Branscombe 10in., and Yarcombe.

Improvements to the protective measures at the Wilmington Springs took the form of sheet steel piling and cement slabbing to exclude surface water.

A scheme at present planned for 1965 is to replace the present corroded 2in. galvanized main from Devonshire House to Newcott with a 4in. P.V.C. main, and is to continue to Stopgate in 3in. P.V.C. The total length will be 3,400 yards, and will be the first time the Board has used polyvinyl-chloride pipe for a substantial project.

Water Sampling.

Two bacteriological samples were taken from private supplies and one from a new farm supply. In addition a series of samples from a new farm borehole were taken following initially satisfactory results and protective measures were adopted which resulted in this supply being approved.

Sewage Disposal.

The village sewerage scheme at Talaton was completed in August, and connections to the main are proceeding satisfactorily.

The sewage disposal works at Offwell gave rise to concern as erosion of the adjoining stream bank affected the stability of the works and caused a serious river pollution hazard. Investigation showed that underpinning and general protective and repair measures would be uneconomic, so a replacement works has been designed for construction near the present works. The opportunity was taken to increase the size of the treatment units to deal with the new development of this village.

Continuing with the programme of new village sewerage schemes I have prepared a scheme for Awliscombe, and the various consents are being applied for.

Refuse Disposal.

For April a twice-monthly collection of refuse was instituted in all parishes in the area. The refuse trailer and Land Rover has proved quite adequate for the occasional use intended, and has proved extremely useful in addition in connection with sewage works maintenance. The regular Karrier refuse collector with its crew of two is fully extended and no further increase in the frequency of collecting can be entertained unless a further refuse collecting unit is acquired.

If only the present frequency is maintained, and the development at Sidmouth Junction of about 160 new dwellings recently permitted in outline reaches fruition then the refuse collection service for this area will need re-consideration.

In an effort to find a practical solution to the problem of abandoned and derelict motor vehicles, the Council sought permission to establish a car dump in a goyle at Farway, but was unsuccessful in obtaining planning permission. This decision of the County Council was accepted on the assurance being given that active steps were being taken to establish in conjunction with the respective District Councils, central car breakers' yards for use by all local authorities.

Factories Act — 1961.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	18	18	—
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	22	10	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority — building sites, etc.	29	29	—
	<hr/> 69	<hr/> 123	<hr/> —

Housing Act — 1957.

Formal proceedings were taken to ensure the demolition of a cottage at Awliscombe, but the order has been delayed pending re-development proposals for the site. Two further cottages were reported after inspection as suitable only for demolition.

Six houses were repaired following informal action.

Housing.

Private development completed 21 houses and bungalows.

Eight houses and two bungalows were completed at Sidmouth Junction for the Council and five houses at Branscombe. Two old peoples bungalows were completed at Gittisham, and tender documents were prepared for a further two at Combe Raleigh and four at Wilmington.

Improvement Grants.

Standard Grants for nine houses were paid, totalling £1,319. Ten were approved during the year.

Discretionary Grants for twenty houses were paid, totalling £7,480, and twenty-three were approved.

Rodent Control.

Routine inspections were carried out by the part-time rodent operator and all reported infestations were dealt with.

Petroleum Acts.

Two new storage installations at Northleigh and Offwell were tested and approved during the year and obsolete tanks at Offwell were filled under close supervision.

Food and Drugs Act.

Forty-eight inspections of the forty-five food premises in this area were made and minor contraventions of the Hygiene Regulations were noted for subsequent informal action. In one case, a village bakery was found to be a little below standard and as a result of the ready co-operation of the baker and his landlord following informal action the structure was entirely renovated, and the equipment all renewed.

During the special survey of corned beef vendors following the Minister's instruction, one 6lb. tin was surrendered as having a suspect packing station number.

A further 11lb. tin of cooked ham was condemned during the year.

Offices, Shops, and Railway Premises Act — 1963.

A Survey of fifty-eight premises was made and as a result nineteen were registered. None of these complied in every respect with the standards required and action to secure compliance is being undertaken.

Camping and Caravanning.

In addition to the annual survey of all sites for planning purposes, detailed inspections of five of the larger sites were made in connection with site licences.

Public Health — General.

During the year, twenty-five inspections and visits in connection with fifteen nuisances were made and the nuisances dealt with.

During the latter half of the year, Mr. R. J. Davis was appointed as my assistant and his contribution to the general public health work was both immediate and much appreciated.

J. D. HOPGOOD,
Public Health Inspector.

OTTERY ST. MARY URBAN DISTRICT

Area	...	...	...	...	...	10,008 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	4,460
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£152,305
Penny Rate produces	...	...	...	...	...	£615
General Rate Levied	...	...	...	...	...	9/8d.

Deaths

1963	32 males, 33 females	...	...	...	...	65
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	15.7
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	0.8
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	12.6
1964	26 males, 41 females	...	...	...	...	66
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	14.8
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	0.8
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	11.8

Live Births

1963	32 males, 27 females	...	...	...	...	59
	4 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	59
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	14.3
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	1.2
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	17.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	6.8
1964	34 males, 37 females	...	...	...	...	71
	5 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	71
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	15.9
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	1.2
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	19.1
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	7.0

Still Births

1963	1 still birth was registered (0 illegitimate) ...	1
	Total live and still births ...	60
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	16.7
1964	0 still births were registered ...	0
	Total live and still births ...	71
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1963	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate) ...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	16.9
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	18.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	Nil
1964	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate) ...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	14.1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	15.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1963	1 death was registered ...	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	16.9
	Maternal deaths ...	Nil
1964	1 death was registered ...	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	14.1
	Maternal deaths ...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1963	1 death was registered ...	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	16.9
	Peri-natal mortality rate ...	33.8
1964	1 death was registered ...	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	14.1
	Peri-natal mortality rate ...	14.1

Deaths

The chief causes of death were:

	1963	1964
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	4	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	4	9
Diabetes	0	1
Vascular lesions or nervous system	9	14
Coronary disease, angina	12	15
Hypertension with heart disease	3	2
Other heart disease	11	2
Other circulatory disease	0	6
Influenza	3	0
Pneumonia	2	1
Bronchitis	5	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	0
Hyperplasia of prostate	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined disease	2	4
Motor accidents	2	0
All other accidents	1	0
Suicide	1	1
	—	—
	65	66
	—	—

Water Supply.

The improvement to the mains water supply in the Urban Area was maintained during the year and the quality and purity of the supply from the East Devon Water Board continued to be satisfactory.

Breakdowns in the supply were less frequent due to the Board's policy of renewing old and unsatisfactory sections of the main pipe lines. Practically all the mains situated in the built-up area of the town have now been relaid.

The two Council housing estates at Taleford Villas and Pater-son Close (12 and 10 houses respectively) have been satisfactorily supplied by the two small bore holes situated on land adjoining the respective estates.

Approximate number of dwellings :

Supplied by mains water	...	...	...	...	1440
Estimated population	...	...	...	...	3828
Supplied by private wells or springs	...	...	...	...	257
Estimated population	...	...	...	...	632

Bacteriological Examination.

Three samples of water were taken from the main piped supply of the East Devon Water Board, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

Four samples of water were taken from private wells, three of which were found to be satisfactory. The other showed signs of gross pollution, and is no longer used for drinking or domestic purposes, the premises concerned being now connected to the mains supply of the East Devon Water Board.

Sewage Disposal.

General maintenance of the sewage disposal works, accommodating the built-up area of the town has been satisfactorily carried out during the year, the comparatively fine weather has enabled the sludge beds to dry out sufficiently for them to be cleared as and when necessary. A slightly unsatisfactory effluent sample from these works was reported by the Devon River Board during the early part of the year, this was considered due to the slow drying out of the sludge beds.

The disposal works serving the villages of Tipton St. John worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

The Council's Consulting Engineers continued the comprehensive survey of the West Hill area, this sewerage scheme will also include part of the Salston and Fluxton areas and the hamlet of Wiggaton. It is proposed to site the new sewage disposal works at Fluxton, which is situated along the valley of the River Otter between Ottery St. Mary and Tipton St. John. It is contemplated that the complete scheme will be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the various Statutory Authorities concerned during the early part of 1965.

In one or two instances tank drainage to new dwellings erected in the West Hill area has given trouble due to unsatisfactory disposal arrangements for the effluent. At the present rate of erection of new dwellings the position is likely to become more acute and the West Hill Sewerage Scheme become still more urgent.

The sewage problem at the village of Alfington is acute, and urgent consideration should be given to the provision of a sewerage scheme. Several dwellings are in dire need of a satisfactory sewage disposal system and the individual problems are almost insoluble unless a main sewer is provided.

Refuse Disposal.

The weekly collection of household refuse in the town area and the fortnightly collections in the rural parts of the Urban District has been carried out satisfactorily during the past year: it is considered that these arrangements generally meet the needs of the district.

The reclamation of the land by semi-controlled tipping at the Chineway refuse tip proceeds satisfactorily. The building works being carried out in the area enable sufficient top soil to be made available to keep the tip face reasonably covered.

Inspection of Factories and Workshops—Factories Act—1961.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority ...	9	34	—
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	21	82	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority—building sites, etc. ...	33	66	—
	63	182	—

Defects found and remedied by informal action:

Want of cleanliness ...	1
Inadequate washing facilities ...	1
Unsuitable and/or defective sanitary conveniences ...	1
	3

Housing.

Number of new dwellings erected:					
By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	Nil
By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	95
					—
					95
					—

One old cottage, destroyed as a result of flood damage, was demolished and rooms over shop premises were converted into a two-bedroomed flat.

Standard Grants.

Number of dwellings improved:					
Owner/Occupier	...	...	...	...	5
Tenanted	...	...	...	...	3
					—
Total					8

Total amount paid in grants—£1,094.

Slum Clearance

Due to certain technical legal difficulties, very slow progress has been made in respect of the demolition of a condemned cottage, and the redevelopment, for residential purposes, of land contained within Clearance Area Number 4, situated in Yonder Street. The single unit dwellings proposed to be erected on the resulting building site are urgently required and when provided will in no small measure help to relieve the existing housing shortage. It is the intention of the Council to rehouse single and/or old aged couples now living in two or three bedroomed dwellings into the new single units, thus providing living accommodation for a greater number of persons.

Inspection of Offices and Shops.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act—1964

The survey and inspections made necessary by the requirements of the above Act, were carried out during the year. All premises considered to come within the purview of the Act were issued with an O.S.R. 1 application form, together with an explanatory letter. The following tables give details of inspections, number of premises registered, and other relevant information:

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered	Total No. of Regis- tered Premises at end of year	No. of Registered Premises inspected
Offices	14	14	14
Retail Shops	28	28	28
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	3	3	3
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	7	7	7
Totals	52	52	52

Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises—120.

Table C. Analysis of persons employed in registered premises.

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	46
Retail Shops	96
Wholesale departments, Warehouses	9
Catering establishments open to the public	27
Canteens	—
Fuel Storage depots	—
Total	178
Total Males	64
Total Females	114

Number of inspections appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act—two.

One accident case was reported and referred to the appropriate department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. It related to a badly cut finger of a female employee operating a bacon slicing machine.

Rodent Control — Prevention of Damage by Pests Act — 1949.

The services provided by the Council, carried out by the part-time Rodent Operator, appears to be adequate and no serious infestations within the Urban District were found or reported during the year. The pooling of up-to-date information and ideas by members of Local Authorities and the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at the meetings held by the Workable Area Committee are considered to be well worth while and no doubt assist in the successful destruction of rats and other pests now being universally achieved.

Slaughterhouses.

The three private slaughterhouses situated in the built up area of the town continue to carry out their useful function of providing good quality home-killed meat in the town and surrounding districts. The standard of hygiene at the above premises remains satisfactory and the personnel engaged in the work carry out the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Food and Drugs Act — 1955 — Meat Inspection.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

		Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	... ..	596	22	1587	1086
Number inspected	... ..	596	22	1587	1086
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	83	2	191	116	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	... ..	13.94	9.09	12.04	10.68
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	... ..	—	—	—	1.38
Cysticercosis	... ..	—	—	—	—
Condemnations					Lbs. Weight
Beef including offal	... ..	...	...	...	973
Mutton and Lamb	... ..	...	...	...	570 $\frac{1}{4}$
Pork	... ..	...	...	...	509 $\frac{1}{4}$
Veal	... ..	...	...	...	—
Tinned Meat	... ..	...	...	...	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Miscellaneous (tinned fruit, etc.)		...	...	...	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total					2074lbs.

Food Preparing Establishments.

Most of these establishments in the district also come under the control of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and this has resulted in an increased number of inspections to the premises concerned. The standard of cleanliness of the premises and personnel is considered satisfactory. All food stores, cafes, hotels, schools, canteens and other similar food establishments were visited in respect of enquiries made as a consequence of the Aberdeen Typhoid Fever epidemic. No suspect tins of corned beef were located and no further action was found necessary.

Staff.

Mr. J. H. Mercer was appointed as Assistant Public Health Inspector and commenced his duties in April. This has resulted in a more efficient running of the Public Health Department and a 100% meat inspection is now being carried out at the three private slaughterhouses.

CHAS. Wm. GLOVER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SEATON URBAN DISTRICT

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,178 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,600
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£188,234
Penny Rate produces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£755-6-8
General Rate levied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11/7d.

Deaths

1963	32 males, 44 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	21.5
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.5
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.3
1964	34 males, 46 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.2
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	.48
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.7

Live Births

1963	19 males, 13 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
	2 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.0
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.43
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.9
	Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.2
1964	25 males, 20 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
	3 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.5
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.43
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.9
	Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.7

Still Births

1963	0 still births were registered	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	32
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
1964	1 still birth was registered	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	46
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	21.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1963	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
1964	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	22.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	23.8
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1963	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
1964	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1963	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
1964	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	...	21.7

Deaths.

The chief causes of death were :

	1963	1964
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	5
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	3	0
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	5	10
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	1
Diabetes	2	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	23
Coronary disease, angina	16	10
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1
Other heart disease	11	12
Other circulatory disease	0	4
Influenza	0	1
Pneumonia	9	5
Bronchitis	2	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	2	0
Nephritis and nephrosi	1	0
Hyperplasia of prostate	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined disease	3	2
Other accidents	3	2
	<hr/> 77	<hr/> 80

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

Routine Inspections.

As in former years, routine inspections were made in regard to all public health matters and in particular to caravan sites, houses, petroleum stations, insanitary premises, drainage of new houses, food shops and hotels.

While making visits in connection with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act the opportunity was taken to inspect premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations and other Public Health Acts. It should be noted that 117 applications for registrations were received in respect of offices, shops, warehouses, catering establishments and fuel depots.

Housing.

No Council owned houses were built during the year but 26 flatlets and 4 two-bedroomed houses were under construction. 42 privately owned houses were completed.

Improvement Grants.

Applications for discretionary grants were agreed to during the year in respect of 12 units of accommodation. One standard grant application was omitted from the 1963 report.

Water Supply.

The Seaton water supply was taken over by the East Devon Water Board in October. Improvements continue to be effected.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Discharge of raw sewage is still into the sea at the eastern end of the beach and of settled sewage at Seaton Hole. The small sewerage works at the Northern end of the town receives sewage from the Elizabeth Road, Scalwell Lane area. At the end of the year little further progress had been made with the comprehensive scheme for discharging sewage effluent into the River Axe. Agreement with the Rivers Board has proved to be difficult and it is hoped that better progress will be made in 1965.

Refuse and Refuse Collection.

Refuse collection with the new Pakamatic vehicle which arrived in February has been satisfactory. Disposal continues to be at the Sidmouth Council's controlled tip on Honiton Common.

Food, Shops, and Cafes.

Inspections are made from time to time to see that food hygiene regulations are observed. The standard of hygiene is generally very good.

Rodent Control.

There are no major infestations and minor infestations are effectively dealt with by a very reliable Rodent Operator. The half-yearly treatment of rats in sewers continues.

Public Health—Food and Drugs Act.

A number of complaints were received and dealt with as they arose.

Factories Act.

No action was found to be necessary.

Sanitary Nuisances.

There were a few complaints of nuisances by flies and of sanitary nuisances about dwellings. These matters were dealt with informally, and no notices were served.

General.

My duties are those of Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, and many of my activities as Public Health Officer are merged with those as Surveyor. A considerable amount of building work is in progress in the town, as also various development works to meet the growing needs of this seaside area. Much of my public health work is therefore done verbally along with my other duties so as to reduce paperwork to a minimum.

P. R. BRADLEY, A.R.S.H.,

Public Health Inspector,

WYND EBOLE
WENTING CHANG